

# Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

## Monitoring the Implementation of Property Master Plans

Property: Flambeau River State Forest

Master Plan Year: 2010

### Land Management

#### Forest Production Area 1 – Exeland Plains Hardwoods

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b> Northern hardwoods will remain the dominant cover type. Existing stands will be maintained and enhanced to increase age diversity while maintaining a diversity of forest cover types for forest health, aesthetic appeal, and wildlife habitat. White pine, hemlock, and cedar components will be maintained for large-diameter trees and older forests. Wind events may change the proportion of mid-late successional species to early successional species.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain acreage of northern hardwoods and enhance quality of saw logs on appropriate sites.</li> <li>• Maintain high quality red maple in northern hardwood stands to increase species diversity.</li> <li>• Encourage and promote yellow birch, basswood, ash, and other mid-tolerant species where seed sources exist.</li> <li>• Maintain a diversity of forest cover types and age classes for overall health of the forest, aesthetic appeal, and to provide wildlife habitat.</li> <li>• Improve saw log quality in northern hardwood stands.</li> <li>• Improve the establishment of natural regeneration where possible.</li> <li>• Encourage understory development and diversity</li> <li>• Limit gap management on sites with poor regeneration.</li> <li>• Maintain aspen in mixed stands.</li> <li>• Maintain current levels of pine, tamarack, hemlock, cedar, balsam fir, and spruce.</li> <li>• Evaluate wind damaged stands for adequate crop tree stocking levels.</li> <li>• Provide research opportunities consistent with area management objectives</li> </ul>
<p><b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b></p>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply uneven-aged management, such as crop tree release, thinning, and canopy gap formation techniques, to northern hardwoods where site and stand conditions allow.</li> <li>• Consider even-aged management on northern hardwood sites where crop trees are lacking to achieve long-term uneven-aged stand management. Even-aged management methods include overstory removal and shelterwood cuts.</li> <li>• Conduct mechanical site preparation as needed. Mowing, scarification, herbicide or other methods may be utilized to enhance regeneration.</li> <li>• Use standard single tree selection (and no gap management) when little northern hardwood regeneration is present and less desirable species can dominate.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use gap management techniques when abundant northern hardwood regeneration is present.</li> <li>• Consider artificial regeneration of pine or spruce or other appropriate species where natural regeneration is absent or in canopy openings generally &gt;5 acres.</li> <li>• Convert plantations with predominantly northern hardwood understories to more naturally appearing stands. Maintain other plantations.</li> <li>• For mid-tolerant species such as basswood, ash and birch, encourage natural regeneration through site preparation.</li> <li>• Continue to conduct silvicultural trials to improve the establishment of natural regeneration.</li> </ul> <p><b>The General Forest Management Prescriptions by Primary Forest Type are authorized unless restricted by a prescription above or an overlay zone prescription.</b></p>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 540 Acres Sold</li> <li>• 10 Sales Fall Into Type</li> </ul>

## Land Management

### Forest Production Area 2 – Wet-Mesic Hardwoods

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b> Maintain the extensive high quality complex of native wetland community types in this management area. Coniferous forest types will be maintained to provide valuable habitat for a wide variety of conifer-dependent wildlife species. Red maple and swamp hardwoods will decrease due to regeneration challenges while aspen acreages are expected to increase. Planting of white and black spruce along with other appropriate species may be needed to maintain a forested cover type.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the diversity of forest cover types and age classes for overall health of the forest, aesthetic appeal, and to provide wildlife habitat.</li> <li>• Increase aspen when mixed with red maple and lower quality hardwoods due to regeneration challenges for these species, especially in transition zones between uplands and wetlands.</li> <li>• Maintain acreage of northern hardwoods and enhance quality of sawlogs on appropriate sites.</li> <li>• Maintain aspen in mixed stands.</li> <li>• Openings generally less than 5 acres shall be allowed to naturally regenerate unless identified as a maintained wildlife opening.</li> <li>• Develop a diversity of ages and stand sizes for red maple, swamp hardwoods, aspen, and northern hardwoods.</li> <li>• Retain and encourage yellow birch, white pine, hemlock and northern hardwood components on red maple dominated sites.</li> <li>• Increase the presence of large, longer lived trees such as white pine on suitable sites.</li> <li>• Maintain red maple on sites with adequate natural regeneration or where appropriate. For areas with little or no regeneration, encourage and allow other tree species to predominate, including aspen, northern hardwoods, or other desirable species.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain yellow birch, white pine, hemlock and northern hardwood components on red maple dominated sites. Some harvesting of these species is permitted to meet stand goals and management objectives.</li> <li>• Even-aged management of northern hardwoods where crop trees are lacking shall consist of the following methods: overstory removal and shelterwood harvests. Site preparation may be required in some areas.</li> <li>• Harvest aspen surrounding non-forested areas ≤5 acres for natural regeneration to reduce edge effect.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site preparation techniques such as mowing, scarification, herbicide application or other methods may be utilized if regeneration is lacking to meet management objectives in red maple and northern hardwood stands. Strip cuts may be used in swamp hardwoods and conifer wetlands.</li> <li>• Use coppice techniques to regenerate aspen in mixed stands as necessary to ensure regeneration after salvage operations.</li> <li>• Continue to conduct regeneration trials in conifer wetlands, red maple, and swamp hardwood types.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 516 Acres Sold</li> <li>• 4 Sales</li> </ul>

## **Land Management**

### **Forest Production Area 3 – River Sands Hardwoods**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b> Early successional forest types will be maintained as a strong component of the landscape. Mixed stands with aspen will see the proportion of aspen increased naturally. Across this management area, there will be an increase in the presence and age of red and white pine on suitable sites, with an emphasis on regenerating natural stands of red and white pine. Current levels of red pine plantation acreage will be maintained. The northern hardwood component will be maintained on appropriate sites and where possible, will be converted from even-aged to uneven-aged management.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the diversity of forest cover types and age classes for forest health, aesthetic appeal, and wildlife habitat.</li> <li>• Maintain or increase aspen in mixed stands</li> <li>• Maintain red and white pine, hemlock, and cedar for species diversity</li> <li>• Promote the growth and retention of large red and white pine in mixed and natural stands</li> <li>• Maintain the conifer component in mixed stands</li> <li>• Maintain high quality northern hardwoods</li> <li>• Retain oak on suitable sites</li> <li>• Promote regeneration of mid-tolerant species such as basswood, ash, and birch within northern hardwood stands</li> <li>• Maintain reserve trees and islands to promote travel corridors and age class diversity among managed even-aged aspen stands</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain or increase natural stands of red and white pine through shelterwood harvests and site preparation. Increase pine component on upland openings generally <math>\geq 5</math> acres.</li> <li>• Natural conversion techniques such as crop tree release through thinning and scarification around existing seed sources may be used to maintain and increase red and white pine.</li> <li>• For northern hardwoods where crop trees are lacking use: overstory removal and shelterwood harvests. Site preparation may be required in some areas.</li> <li>• Retain oak when possible for diversity. Oak regeneration will be promoted by releasing crop trees through single tree selection and scarification around existing seed sources.</li> <li>• Regenerate mid-tolerant species such as basswood, ash, and birch using gap management and scarification techniques where sites and stands are suitable. This area has the best opportunity to maintain mid-tolerant species, which are lacking on more mesic sites in the forest.</li> </ul>

<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 240 Acres Sold</li> <li>• 4 Sales</li> </ul>
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## Land Management

### Forest Production Area 4 – Back Country Hardwoods

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b> Motorized vehicle access will be restricted to only forest management and game improvement activity. This area will provide a public backcountry recreational experience and provide walk-in hunting opportunities. Northern hardwoods will remain the dominant cover type with scattered pockets of early to mid-successional species and older hemlock stands. White pine, hemlock, and cedar components will be maintained for large-diameter trees and older forests.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restrict timing of harvest activities to winter only.</li> <li>• Maintain a diversity of forest cover types and age classes with northern hardwoods as the dominant cover type for forest health, aesthetic appeal, and wildlife habitat.</li> <li>• Maintain high quality red maple as a compositional component in northern hardwood stands.</li> <li>• Encourage yellow birch, basswood, and ash and other mid-tolerant species where seed sources exist.</li> <li>• Improve saw log quality in northern hardwood stands.</li> <li>• Improve regeneration of all cover types.</li> <li>• Limit gap management techniques on sites absent of northern hardwood regeneration.</li> <li>• Maintain aspen in mixed stands to biological rotation age.</li> <li>• Maintain pine, tamarack, hemlock, cedar, balsam fir, and spruce at current levels.</li> <li>• Maintain red and white pine, hemlock, and cedar.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain access for management purposes only. Gates will be maintained or placed to limit access on existing logging roads.</li> <li>• Develop uneven-aged management for northern hardwoods through gap management and thinnings. Site preparation may be required in some areas.</li> <li>• Conduct timber harvests from December 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>.</li> <li>• Regenerate mid-tolerant species such as basswood, ash, and birch using gap management and scarification techniques where sites and stands are suitable.</li> <li>• Use mowing, scarification, herbicide application or other methods as appropriate.</li> <li>• Coppice aspen in mixed stands as necessary to ensure regeneration after salvage operations.</li> <li>• Evaluate crop tree stocking in wind damaged stands to determine appropriate future management.</li> <li>• Use standard single tree selection (and no gap management) when little northern hardwood regeneration is present and less desirable species can dominate.</li> <li>• Use gap management techniques when abundant northern hardwood regeneration is present.</li> <li>• Existing wildlife openings will be naturally re-vegetated and no new wildlife openings will be created in this area.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76 Acres Sold</li> <li>• 2 Sales</li> </ul>

## Land Management

### Forest Production Area 5 – Jump River Hardwoods

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b> High quality northern hardwoods and aspen will predominate in this area. Hemlock/hardwood inclusions throughout the area will provide larger, older trees and structural attributes consistent with older forests. This area of the forest will increase in forest composition, age, and vertical structure.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain acreage of northern hardwoods and enhance quality of sawlogs on appropriate sites.</li> <li>• Increase age and maintain a diversity of forest cover types and age classes for forest health, aesthetic appeal, and wildlife habitat.</li> <li>• Improve saw log quality of northern hardwood stands.</li> <li>• Maintain aspen in mixed stands.</li> <li>• Maintain and increase white pine.</li> <li>• Increase and maintain northern red oak, hickory, and butternut.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for research consistent with area management objectives.</li> <li>• Increase mid-tolerant species such as basswood, ash, and birch within northern hardwood stands.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b></p>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider even-aged management on northern hardwood sites where crop trees are lacking to achieve long-term uneven-aged stand management. Even-aged management methods include overstory removal and shelterwood harvests. Conduct mechanical site preparation as needed.</li> <li>• Use mowing, scarification, herbicide application or other methods as necessary to meet management objectives.</li> <li>• Use coppice techniques to regenerate aspen in mixed stands as necessary to ensure regeneration after salvage operations.</li> <li>• Encourage mid-tolerant species through gap management and scarification around existing seed sources.</li> <li>• Increase white pine through active management on suitable soils including natural and artificial methods.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2017 Accomplishments</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 279 Acres Sold</li> <li>• 2 Sales</li> </ul>

## Land Management

### Forest Production Area 6 – Big Block

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b> Motorized vehicle access will be restricted to forest management and game improvement activities. This area will provide a public backcountry recreational experience and provide walk-in hunting opportunities. Northern hardwoods will be maintained and enhanced to improve age and species diversity and forest health. Aspen, where suitable, will also be maintained for species diversity. The conifer component may be increased through planting especially in the non-forested openings.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide public non-motor use area that emphasizes backcountry recreational opportunities and walk-in hunting access.</li> <li>• Increase and maintain existing stands of northern hardwoods</li> <li>• Increase and maintain yellow birch, basswood, ash, and other mid-tolerant species where seed sources exist</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the conifer component</li> <li>• Convert unforested uplands generally &gt;5 acres to suitable species such as white pine, spruce, and other appropriate species</li> </ul>
<b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b>	<b>Management Prescriptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain access for management purposes only. Maintain or place gates where needed to limit public vehicular access. Allow motorized access for forest management and forest game habitat improvement activities.</li> <li>• Consider even-aged management on northern hardwood sites where crop trees are lacking. Even-aged management includes prescriptions for shelterwood harvest coupled with site preparation if needed. Future management on these sites could be converted to uneven-aged management as stand conditions warrant.</li> <li>• Use regeneration techniques such as scarification, gap management, or mowing as needed.</li> <li>• Use thinning and other silviculture techniques to release and favor red oak and yellow birch.</li> <li>• Intermediate treatments such as: tree release, thinning and improvement, salvage and sanitation and pruning may be used to enhance stand composition, structure, growth, health and quality.</li> <li>• Increase conifer component by appropriate artificial regeneration methods.</li> </ul>
<b><i>2017 Accomplishments</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

## **Native Community Management**

### **Native Community Area 7 – Barnaby Rapids Forest and Wetlands**

<b><i>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</i></b>	<b>Long Term Objectives</b> Maintain a contiguous block of Northern Mesic Forest (northern hardwood and conifer) with old-growth characteristics, embedded wetlands and Ephemeral Ponds. Maintain and protect the integrity of the wetland features and their hydrological connections to the river. Provide habitat for forest interior wildlife species. Provide opportunities for research, education and interpretation. <b>Short Term Management Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop old-growth characteristics, including large trees, abundant coarse woody debris and standing dead snags through natural processes</li> <li>• Maintain the remote nature of this area</li> </ul>
<b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b>	<b>Management Prescriptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passively manage the entire management area, except to control invasive species, allowing natural processes to occur with the eventual goal of developing an old-growth hardwood forest.</li> <li>• Periodically monitor all areas within the site for the presence of invasive species and develop a control strategy, including a funding source, if any species are found.</li> <li>• Pesticide use is permitted for invasive species management.</li> <li>• Monitor this area within the next 10 years for the presence of additional rare species, as resources allow.</li> <li>• New recreational features shall not be developed in this area</li> <li>• New roads or trails shall not be developed in this area</li> <li>• Harvest of fine woody material, as defined in the department's Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, is not authorized in this area</li> <li>• Existing wildlife openings will be naturally re-vegetated and no new wildlife openings will be created in this area</li> <li>• Salvage of trees damaged by wind, ice, fire, and insects may occur after consultation shall managers from affected DNR programs to determine how salvage can be done to help meet the objectives of the area.</li> </ul>

<b>Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
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## **Native Community Management**

### **Native Community Area 8 – North Fork Pines**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b> Maintain a block of contiguous old forest dominated by pines and northern hardwoods. Allow the forest to develop structural, compositional and functional characteristics associated with old-growth forest. Assess opportunities to develop regeneration and maintenance of white pine in the future, using tools from the department's Old Growth Handbook (WDNR 2006c). Protect ecological site values including water quality, hydrology, native flora, high-quality natural communities, and potential and known rare species habitats.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop old-growth characteristics, including large trees, abundant coarse woody debris and standing dead snags through natural processes</li> <li>Provide opportunities for comparison with actively managed areas found elsewhere on the property.</li> <li>Maintain potential rare species habitats and high-quality natural communities</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active management is limited to clearing existing trails (material shall be left on site) and to maintain limited low impact public access providing opportunities for education, research and interpretation of the natural community. Salvage operations due to catastrophic wind, fire, disease or insects may take place. Prior to salvage an interdisciplinary team will be consulted to determine if salvage operations or additional management could be considered with due deliberation regarding the original objectives of the area.</li> <li>Monitor this area within the next 10 years for the presence of additional rare or endangered species, as resources allow.</li> <li>Periodically monitor all areas within the site for the presence of invasive species and develop a control strategy including a funding source if any species are found.</li> <li>Pesticide use shall be permitted for invasive species management.</li> <li>Harvest of fine woody material, as defined in the department's Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, is not authorized in this area.</li> <li>Wildlife openings shall not be created or maintained within this management area.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>



## **Native Community Management**

### **Native Community Area 9 – Oxbo Pines**

<p><b><i>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</i></b></p>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b> Allow portions of the area to develop in structural, compositional and functional characteristics associated with old-growth forest, while providing opportunities to actively regenerate pine in other areas. Provide demonstration areas for using alternative techniques to regenerate white and red pine. Protect ecological site values including water quality, hydrology, native flora, high-quality natural communities, and potential and known rare species habitats. Protect and maintain the many wetland communities in this area such as Alder Thicket, and Black Spruce Swamp / Northern Wet Forest that are interspersed throughout the forest matrix.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase tree age throughout the area by passively managing two ecological reference areas of approximately 123 acres (and 4 acres of water) and using old forest-extended rotation techniques in some of the actively managed portions.</li> <li>• Evaluate and attempt regeneration strategies for white pine in parts of the management area.</li> <li>• Provide for education/demonstration of silviculture trials.</li> <li>• Maintain potential rare species habitats and high-quality natural communities.</li> <li>• Maintain existing red and white pine, cedar, and hemlock whenever possible.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b></p>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions: Entire Management Area (283 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Periodically monitor all areas within the site for the presence of invasive species and develop a control strategy, including a funding source, if any species are found.</li> <li>• Pesticide use is permitted throughout the management area for invasive species management.</li> <li>• Monitor this area within the next 10 years for the presence of additional or endangered species, as resources allow.</li> <li>• Wildlife openings shall not be created or maintained within this management area.</li> <li>• Salvage of trees damaged by wind, ice, fire, and insects may occur after consultation with managers from affected DNR programs to determine how salvage can be done to help meet the objectives of the area.</li> <li>• Harvest of fine woody material, as defined in the department's Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, will not occur in this area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Prescriptions: Ecological Reference Areas (123 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passively manage the ecological reference areas except for invasive species management, allowing the stands to develop old growth characteristics such as large trees, standing snags, and abundant coarse woody debris.</li> <li>• Monitor these sites; as this is an uncommon cover type on the forest, they provide opportunities for comparison with actively managed sites found elsewhere on the property.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Prescriptions: Areas Outside of the Ecological Reference Areas (160-acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Property staff and department biologists / ecologists, including staff from the State Natural Areas program will work together to plan and implement management</li> <li>• Manage smaller patches of white/red pine using techniques for regeneration harvest to achieve ecological objectives. Techniques include patch clear cuts, mechanical scarification, prescribed burning, or any combination of these treatments. Emphasis will be given to maintaining large-diameter pines wherever possible.</li> <li>• Maintain a mix of deciduous and conifer forest types on appropriate sites, favoring pine but maintaining other species such as white birch for diversity. Consider underplanting white pine in portions of the white birch stands.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Prescriptions: Entire Management Area (283 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Periodically monitor all areas within the site for the presence of invasive species and develop a control strategy, including a funding source, if any species are found.</li> <li>• Pesticide use is permitted throughout the management area for invasive species management.</li> <li>• Monitor this area within the next 10 years for the presence of additional or endangered species, as resources allow.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wildlife openings shall not be created or maintained within this management area.</li> <li>• Salvage of trees damaged by wind, ice, fire, and insects may occur after consultation with managers from affected DNR programs to determine how salvage can be done to help meet the objectives of the area.</li> <li>• Harvest of fine woody material, as defined in the department's Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, will not occur in this area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Prescriptions: Ecological Reference Areas (123 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passively manage the ecological reference areas except for invasive species management, allowing the stands to develop old growth characteristics such as large trees, standing snags, and abundant coarse woody debris.</li> <li>• Monitor these sites; as this is an uncommon cover type on the forest, they provide opportunities for comparison with actively managed sites found elsewhere on the property.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Prescriptions: Areas Outside of the Ecological Reference Areas (160-acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Property staff and department biologists / ecologists, including staff from the State Natural Areas program will work together to plan and implement management</li> <li>• Manage smaller patches of white/red pine using techniques for regeneration harvest to achieve ecological objectives. Techniques include patch clear cuts, mechanical scarification, prescribed burning, or any combination of these treatments. Emphasis will be given to maintaining large-diameter pines wherever possible.</li> <li>• Maintain a mix of deciduous and conifer forest types on appropriate sites, favoring pine but maintaining other species such as white birch for diversity. Consider underplanting white pine in portions of the white birch stands.</li> <li>• Regenerate white pine through prescribed burning and/or mechanical techniques on smaller patches of white pine and compare to the passively managed ecological reference areas.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

## **Native Community Management**

### **Native Community Area 10 – Hanson Lake Complex**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b></p> <p>Protect and maintain the hydrology, water quality and scenic value of Hanson Lake and other aquatic features. Maintain a diverse mosaic of high-quality natural communities, including potential and known rare species habitats. Maintain contiguous forest cover comprised mainly of longer-lived species connecting the diverse wetland and aquatic communities, unless precluded by natural disturbances and site limitations. The site will have structural attributes associated with old-growth forest such as large trees, standing snags, and abundant coarse woody debris.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the hydrology, aesthetic values, and water quality of the lakes, ponds, and wetlands.</li> <li>• Establish and maintain ecological reference areas totaling 211 acres around the area's wetlands</li> <li>• Use extended rotation management to maintain an older forest of longer-lived species on the uplands, including conifer types where possible.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions: Entire Management Area (336 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Periodically monitor all areas within the site for the presence of invasive species and develop a control strategy, including a funding source, if any species are found.</li> <li>• Pesticide use is permitted throughout the management area for invasive species management.</li> <li>• Monitor this area within the next 10 years for the presence of additional or endangered species, as resources allow</li> <li>• Harvest of fine woody material, as defined in the department's Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, is not</li> </ul>

	<p>authorized in this area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wildlife openings shall not be created or maintained within this management area.</li> <li>• Intensive use is not encouraged, although currently established, non-motorized trails may be maintained.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Prescriptions: Ecological Reference Areas (211 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active management is limited to clearing existing trails (material shall be left on site) and to maintain limited low impact public access providing opportunities for education, research and interpretation of this natural community. Salvage operations due to catastrophic wind, fire, disease or insects may take place. Prior to salvage an interdisciplinary team will be constructed to determine if salvage operations or additional management could be considered with due deliberation regarding the original objectives of the area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Prescriptions: Outside of Ecological Reference Areas (125 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retain red and white pine, cedar, and hemlock whenever possible.</li> <li>• Retain numerous standing dead snags and coarse woody habitat in both the uplands and forested wetlands.</li> <li>• Manage stands isolated by wetlands only under frozen conditions.</li> <li>• Use old forest-extended rotation management wherever possible, with special emphasis on safeguarding the area's wetland characteristics and water quality.</li> <li>• Salvage of trees damaged by wind, ice, fire, and insects may occur after consultation with managers from affected DNR programs to determine how salvage can be done to help meet the objectives of the area.</li> <li>• Maintain access for management purposes only. Gates will be maintained or placed to limit access on existing logging roads.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

## **Native Community Management**

### **Native Community Area 11 – Swamp Lake Forest**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b></p> <p>Maintain a contiguous block of mature and old-growth Northern Mesic Forest that includes a matrix of upland and wetland types, including conifers. Maintain forest structural diversity, increasing the dominance of longer-lived trees, and develop characteristics associated with old growth including large trees grown to biological maturity and abundant snags and downed coarse woody debris. Protect ecological site values including water quality, hydrology, native flora, high-quality natural communities, and rare species habitats. Provide opportunities for research, education, and interpretation, as well as opportunities for visitors to experience an old-growth forest.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish and maintain a 582 acre (and 5 acres of water) ecological reference area.</li> <li>• Passively manage the Ecological Reference Area comprising the large stand of hemlock-hardwood forest east of Swamp Lake.</li> <li>• Develop old-growth attributes on the uplands outside of the ecological reference area using old forest - extended rotation techniques emphasizing the retention of large trees, coarse woody debris and standing dead snags. Encourage hemlock, yellow birch and white pine where possible.</li> <li>• Monitor hemlock stands for growth and regeneration levels.</li> <li>• Maintain a mosaic of high-quality wetland communities and forested uplands considering ecological connections to both Area 20 and Area 12.</li> </ul>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b></p>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions: Entire Management Area (752 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Periodically monitor all areas within the site for the presence of invasive species and develop a control strategy, including a funding source, if any species are found.</li> <li>• Pesticide is permitted throughout the management area for invasive species management.</li> <li>• Monitor this area within the next 10 years for the presence of additional or endangered species, as resources allow.</li> <li>• Harvest of fine woody material, as defined in the department's Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, is not authorized in this area.</li> <li>• Wildlife openings shall not be created or maintained within this management area.</li> <li>• New recreational features shall not be developed in this management area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Prescriptions: Ecological Reference Area (582 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active management is limited to clearing existing trails (material shall be left on site) and to maintain limited low impact public access providing opportunities for education, research and interpretation of this natural community. Salvage operations due to catastrophic wind, fire, disease or insects may take place. Prior to salvage an interdisciplinary team will be constructed to determine if salvage operations or additional management could be considered with due deliberation regarding the original objectives of the area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Prescriptions: Outside of Ecological Reference Area (170 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use old forest-extended rotation management wherever possible, with special emphasis on safeguarding the area's wetland characteristics and water quality.</li> <li>• Protect natural white pine, red pine, cedar, and hemlock regeneration.</li> <li>• Encourage development of conifer tree species in upland forest outside of the ecological reference area where advantageous and consistent with area objectives.</li> <li>• If hemlock regeneration trials are attempted, conduct them outside of the ecological reference area to the south (e.g., stands 12 and 17 Compartment 101).</li> <li>• Retain numerous standing dead snags and coarse woody habitat in both the uplands and forested wetlands.</li> <li>• Salvage of trees damaged by wind, ice, fire, and insects may occur after consultation with managers from affected DNR programs to determine how salvage can be done to help meet the objectives of the area.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Accomplishments</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

## **Native Community Management**

### **Native Community Area 12 – Bass Lake Forest and Muskeg**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</i></b></p>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b></p> <p>Maintain a high quality complex of native peatland communities. Protect ecological site values including water quality, hydrology, native flora, high-quality natural communities, and potential and known rare species habitats. Hydrologic function is critical in regulating these communities, so hydrology should be protected and restored where possible. Provide opportunities for research, education and ecological interpretation and low-impact uses such as hiking, bird-watching, photography, and nature study. The uplands are part of a more extensive forest in Area 20; in these portions of the area, maintain a contiguous block of mature forest and develop characteristics associated with old growth including large trees grown to biological maturity with abundant snags and downed coarse woody debris.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and maintain rare species habitats and high quality natural communities.</li> <li>• Passively manage this area, allowing natural development of old-growth characteristics, including large trees,</li> </ul>
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	abundant coarse woody debris and standing dead snags in the uplands
<b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions: Entire Management Area (1,485 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passively manage this site. Active management is limited to clearing existing trails (material shall be left on site) and to maintain limited low impact public access providing opportunities for education, research and interpretation of this natural community. Salvage operations due to catastrophic wind, fire, disease or insects may take place. Prior to salvage an interdisciplinary team will be constructed to determine if salvage operations or additional management could be considered with due deliberation regarding the original objectives of the area.</li> <li>• Periodically monitor all areas within the site for the presence of invasive species and develop a control strategy, including a funding source, if any species are found.</li> <li>• Pesticide use is permitted throughout the management area for invasive species management.</li> <li>• Monitor this area within the next 10 years for the presence of additional or endangered species, as resources allow.</li> <li>• Harvest of fine woody material, as defined in the department's Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, is not allowed in this area.</li> <li>• Wildlife openings shall not be created or maintained within this management area.</li> <li>• Existing recreational trails shall be allowed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Maintain limited low Impact Management Prescriptions: Entire Management Area (1,485 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passively manage this site. Active management is limited to clearing existing trails (material shall be left on site) and to maintain limited low impact public access providing opportunities for education, research and interpretation of this natural community. Salvage operations due to catastrophic wind, fire, disease or insects may take place. Prior to salvage an interdisciplinary team will be constructed to determine if salvage operations or additional management could be considered with due deliberation regarding the original objectives of the area.</li> <li>• Periodically monitor all areas within the site for the presence of invasive species and develop a control strategy, including a funding source, if any species are found.</li> <li>• Pesticide use is permitted throughout the management area for invasive species management.</li> <li>• Monitor this area within the next 10 years for the presence of additional or endangered species, as resources allow.</li> <li>• Harvest of fine woody material, as defined in the department's Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, is not allowed in this area.</li> <li>• Wildlife openings shall not be created or maintained within this management area.</li> <li>• Existing recreational trails shall be allowed.</li> <li>• Maintain limited low Impact public access to Bass Lake and provide opportunities for education and Interpretation of the native community.</li> </ul>
<b><i>2017 Accomplishments</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

## **Native Community Management**

### **Native Community Area 13 – Hackett Creek Watershed**

<b><i>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</i></b>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b></p> <p>Maintain a high quality complex of native wetland communities including areas that support older white cedar, black spruce, tamarack and swamp hardwoods. Protect ecological site values including water quality, hydrology, native flora, high-quality natural communities, and potential and known rare species habitats. Limit development in area and along</p>
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	<p>water bodies to existing roads. Maintain the uplands in longer-lived species, unless precluded by natural disturbances and limitations. Hydrologic function is critical in regulating these communities, so hydrology should be protected and restored where possible. Provide opportunities for research, education and ecological interpretation and low-impact uses such as hiking, bird watching, photography, and nature study.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase age structure through old forest-extended rotation management in the forested uplands, favoring longer lived species.</li> <li>• Maintain potential and known rare species habitats and high-quality natural communities.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actively manage the upland forests using old forest-extended rotation. Attempt to convert aspen stands to longer lived species. Passively manage all other areas.</li> <li>• Protect natural white pine, cedar, and hemlock regeneration.</li> <li>• Encourage development of conifer tree species where advantageous and consistent with area objectives.</li> <li>• Protect significant areas from hydrological changes from road construction and development.</li> <li>• Periodically monitor all areas within the site for the presence of invasive species and develop a control strategy, including a funding source, if any species are found.</li> <li>• Pesticide use is permitted for invasive species management.</li> <li>• Harvest of fine woody material, as defined in the department's Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, is not allowed in this area.</li> <li>• Monitor this area within the next 10 years for the presence of additional rare species, as resources allow.</li> <li>• Wildlife openings shall not be created or maintained within this management area.</li> <li>• Salvage of trees damaged by wind, ice, fire, and insects within wetlands may occur after consultation with managers from affected DNR programs to determine how salvage can be done to meet the objectives of the area.</li> </ul>
<b><i>2017 Accomplishments</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

## **Native Community Management**

### **Native Community Area 14 – Flambeau Forks Interior Forest**

<b><i>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</i></b>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b></p> <p>Maintain a contiguous block of mature and old-growth Northern Mesic Forest that includes a matrix of Ephemeral Ponds, Forested Seeps, and riparian corridors. Protect ecological site values including water quality, hydrology, native flora, high quality natural communities, and rare species habitats. Provide opportunities for long-term scientific research, including comparisons of different management strategies on the development of old-growth characteristics. Develop characteristics associated with old growth, including large trees grown to biological maturity and abundant snags and downed coarse woody debris. Provide opportunities for visitors to experience an old-growth forest in a remote setting. This area is expected to remain a rich maple-basswood forest, as site and stand conditions allow, within all three of the area's management zones. Red and white pine, cedar, and hemlock will also be retained in the extended rotation area, wherever possible.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain three distinct management zones within the area: a 514-acre research zone, two ecological reference areas totaling 228 acres, and the remaining acreage (616 acres) in an old forest - extended rotation zone.</li> <li>• In the old forest-extended rotation zone use silvicultural techniques to increase the age structure and maintain a</li> </ul>
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	<p>diverse species composition, where possible. Management here will strive to convert existing even-aged northern hardwood forests to uneven-aged, encourage long-lived species, and retain a significant component of old, large diameter trees and allow for the development of coarse woody debris.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passively manage the ecological reference areas, allowing natural processes to occur with the eventual goal of developing an old-growth hardwood forest.</li> <li>• Provide research opportunities in all three zones consistent with area management objectives</li> <li>• Provide for education/demonstration of old forest and extended rotation management.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b></p>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions: Entire Management Area (1,358 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intensive use will not be permitted, except for the existing gravel pit, established trails, and future recreation/logging trails.</li> <li>• Monitor this area within the next 10 years for the presence of additional rare or endangered species, as resources allow.</li> <li>• Periodically monitor all areas within the site for the presence of invasive species and develop a control strategy including a funding source if any species are found.</li> <li>• Pesticide use will be permitted for invasive species management.</li> <li>• Harvest of fine woody material, as defined in the department's Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, will not occur in this management area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Prescriptions: Research Zone (514 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue ongoing research studying the effects of various treatments on accelerating the development of oldgrowth structure and composition over a fifty year period. Research methods were described in a proposal submitted to the department, and manipulation treatments have been completed. See Long-term Research Overlay for more information.</li> <li>• Passively manage these zones. Perform no active management, including any salvage operations, except to clear existing roads where material would be left on site. Exceptions to salvage restrictions to meet statutory responsibilities for fire protection or forest pest control would be developed by an interdisciplinary team.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Prescriptions: Ecological Reference Areas (228 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passively manage this site. Active management is limited to clearing existing trails where material will be left on site and to maintain limited low impact public access providing opportunities for education, research and interpretation of this natural community. Salvage operations due to catastrophic wind, fire, disease or insects may take place. Prior to salvage an interdisciplinary team will be constructed to determine if salvage operations or additional management could be considered with due deliberation regarding the original objectives of the area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Prescriptions: Old Forest-Extended Rotation Zone (616 acres)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use old forest extended rotation silvicultural techniques on appropriate sites. While timber production is an objective, increased emphasis should be on aesthetics, wildlife habitat, and biodiversity. Appropriate stocking guides may utilize a 24-plus to 30-plus inch maximum tree size class. Longer cutting cycles will generally be used. Additional ecological forestry techniques, such as the retention of reserve trees, management of coarse woody debris (abundant large snags and downed rotting logs), and the encouragement of coniferous associates (especially white pine and hemlock) will be applied. Retain cover for ephemeral ponds and avoid negatively impacting their hydrology. Maintain standards of red and white pine, cedar, and hemlock.</li> <li>• Salvage of trees damaged by wind, ice, fire, and insects may occur after consultation with managers from affected DNR programs to determine how salvage can be done to meet the objectives of the area recognizing that increasing coarse woody debris and snag components are a management goal for this management area.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>2017 Accomplishments</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>



## **Native Community Management**

### **Native Community Area 15 - Lake of the Pines Conifer Hardwoods**

<p><b><i>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</i></b></p>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b> Develop and maintain a contiguous block of Northern Mesic Forest, allowing old-growth characteristics to develop where conditions allow. Maintain and protect the integrity of the forested wetland features and their hydrological connections to the lake. Provide opportunities to conduct research examining the recovery of old-growth following catastrophic windstorm events. Provide opportunities for education and interpretation.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow natural processes to develop old-growth characteristics, including large trees, abundant coarse woody debris and standing dead snags where possible</li> <li>• Maintain the remote nature of this site</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b></p>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passively manage this site. Active management is limited to clearing existing trails where material will be left on site and to maintain limited low impact public access providing opportunities for education, research and interpretation of this natural community. Salvage operations due to catastrophic wind, fire, disease or insects may take place. Prior to salvage an interdisciplinary team will be constructed to determine if salvage operations or additional management could be considered with due deliberation regarding the original objectives of the area.</li> <li>• Periodically monitor all areas within the site for the presence of invasive species and develop a control strategy if any species are found.</li> <li>• Pesticide use is permitted for invasive species management.</li> <li>• Monitor this area within the next 10 years for the presence of additional rare species, as resources allow.</li> <li>• New recreational features shall not be developed on this site</li> <li>• New roads or trails shall not be developed on this site</li> <li>• Harvest of fine woody material, as defined in the department's Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, will not occur in this area.</li> <li>• Wildlife openings shall not be created or maintained within this management area.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>2017 Accomplishments</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

## **Native Community Management**

### **Native Community Area 16 – Flambeau River Hardwood Forest**

<p><b><i>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</i></b></p>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b> Allow forest to naturally age and gradually develop characteristics associated with older forest including large trees, abundant coarse woody debris and standing dead snags, as conditions allow. Provide opportunities to conduct research examining the recovery of old-growth following catastrophic windstorm events. Provide opportunities for education and interpretation.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow natural processes to develop old-growth characteristics, including large trees, abundant coarse woody debris and standing dead snags where possible</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide opportunities for research consistent with area's management objectives.</li> <li>• Maintain the remote nature of this site</li> </ul>
<b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passively manage this site. Active management is limited to clearing existing trails where material will be left on site and to maintain limited low impact public access providing opportunities for education, research and interpretation of this natural community. Salvage operations due to catastrophic wind, fire, disease or insects may take place. Prior to salvage an interdisciplinary team will be constructed to determine if salvage operations or additional management could be considered with due deliberation regarding the original objectives of the area.</li> <li>• Periodically monitor all areas within the site for the presence of invasive species and develop a control strategy if any species are found.</li> <li>• Pesticide use will be permitted for invasive species management.</li> <li>• Monitor this area within the next 10 years for the presence of additional rare species, as resources allow.</li> <li>• New recreational features will not be developed on this site</li> <li>• New roads or trails will not be developed on this site</li> <li>• Harvest of fine woody material, as defined in the department's Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, will not occur in this area.</li> <li>• Wildlife openings shall not be created or maintained within this management area.</li> </ul>
<b><i>2017 Accomplishments</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

## **Habit Management**

Habitat Area 17 – Ruffed Grouse

**Management area merged with Jump River Hardwoods**

## **Scenic Resources Management**

Scenic Resources Area 18 – Flambeau River Scenic Area

<b><i>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</i></b>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b></p> <p>Provide a wild-appearing, remote, undeveloped, scenic setting along the North Fork and South Fork of the Flambeau River offering solitude and high quality back-country recreation within a quarter mile of the Flambeau River. Non-motorized recreation is emphasized, particularly paddling and camping. Forest management will maintain a structurally and functionally diverse forest of mixed hardwoods and conifer species that provide aesthetic and ecological values. Riparian habitats will be maintained and coarse woody habitat will be encouraged.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a somewhat remote and undeveloped, natural appearing setting within ¼ mile along both banks of the North and South Forks of the Flambeau River with special emphasis on the 400 foot riparian zone along each river bank.</li> <li>• Develop and enhance a closed canopy older-growth forest of pine, hemlock, and northern hardwood species on appropriate sites. Retain and promote Eagle and Osprey nesting habitat.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance riparian habitats.</li> <li>• Provide and enhance opportunities for solitude and primitive types of non-motorized recreation, particularly canoeing/ kayaking and low density primitive and semi-primitive river camping and hiking.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b></p>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions (these apply to the entire management area, except as overridden by the special prescriptions for the 400 foot river edge zone)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow the DNR Old Growth and Old Forest Handbook management guidelines, particularly related to “Managed Old-Forests” on appropriate sites. Monitor composition and structure changes to aid future management decisions.</li> <li>• On appropriate sites, promote the growth and retention of large trees, favoring white pine, red pine, hemlock, yellow birch and cedar for their high aesthetic value. Under-planting may be used to increase stocking levels of key species.</li> <li>• Retain and promote coarse woody habitat (snags and dead downed trees) to promote old growth characteristics and for riparian habitat along and in the river, except for within designated public use sites where hazard trees shall be removed.</li> <li>• In areas with predominantly shorter-lived species, convert to longer-lived species where possible while retaining a high visual quality of the area (i.e. to the degree practicable, maintain low level of visibility of management activity). Under-plant if necessary if natural regeneration of desired species is not likely or to speed conversion.</li> <li>• Passively manage bottomland hardwoods and other wetlands.</li> <li>• Actively manage pine plantations through thinning and appropriate regeneration techniques to create stands with a natural appearance and larger diameter trees.</li> <li>• Limit the extent and frequency of forest management activities necessary to achieve the desired silvicultural response with the least visible sign of management activity. Except within 400 feet river zone, reduce entry periods by managing for larger sized stands.</li> <li>• Control invasive species as necessary to maintain aesthetic and ecological integrity; use methods that are consistent with the intent of this management area, and apply invasive species control measures at the most advantageous time for successful control.</li> <li>• Consistent with the management objectives and prescriptions for this area, conduct salvage operations, emphasizing maintenance and improvement of the long-term visual quality of the area. Plant following salvage if desired forest composition will not naturally regenerate.</li> <li>• Minimize the visual and audible impacts of forest management activities by harvesting during leaf-off periods, unless a faster response is necessary to address public health and safety concerns, such as removing hazard trees from designated public use sites.</li> <li>• Locate logging roads and decking sites outside of this management area whenever possible.</li> <li>• For development of management roads and other structures follow the requirements of NR44.07(5) for a Type-2 recreational use setting, except for included public use sites that are designated as a Type-3 recreational use setting where NR44.07(6) shall apply as prescribed by the recreational use section of this plan.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Accomplishments</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,117 Acres Sold</li> <li>• 7 Sales</li> </ul>

## **Scenic Resources Management**

### **Scenic Resources Area 19 – Upper North Fork Flambeau River Scenic Area**

<p><b><i>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</i></b></p>	<p><b>Long Term Objectives</b></p> <p>Provide a wild appearing, remote, undeveloped setting along the North Fork of the Flambeau River offering solitude and a natural appearing landscape. Protect and enhance the natural appearing and wild qualities of the river corridor by</p>
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	<p>promoting an older forest, and of long-lived tree species including pine, hemlock, and northern hardwood with a closed canopy with highly visible large live and dead legacy trees. Protect and enhance the riparian habitat. Provide and enhance non-motorized recreation opportunities for solitude by providing a limited number of primitive water access sites, particularly for canoes and kayaks. Encourage day trips by not allowing camping.</p> <p><b>Short Term Management Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a somewhat remote and undeveloped, natural appearing setting with special emphasis on the 300-400 foot riparian zone along each river bank.</li> <li>• Protect and enhance riparian habitats.</li> <li>• Provide and enhance opportunities for solitude and primitive types of non-motorized recreation, particularly canoeing/kayaking</li> <li>• Develop and enhance a closed canopy older-growth forest of pine, hemlock, and northern hardwood species on appropriate sites. Retain and promote Eagle and Osprey nesting habitat.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b></p>	<p><b>Land Management Prescriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passively manage the 300' to 400' were ownership allows on each side of the Upper North Fork Flambeau River; except for control of invasive species, for salvage or restoration activities, and for management of public use facilities as provided for in this section. Promote the growth and retention of large trees, favoring white pine, red pine, hemlock, and cedar for their high aesthetic value. Under-planting may be used to increase stocking levels of key species.</li> <li>• Allow downed trees on the shore and non-hazardous trees in the water for riparian and fish habitat through natural processes or by controlled tree drops if necessary.</li> <li>• Actively manage the pine plantations through thinning to promote larger diameter trees and develop stands with a natural appearance.</li> <li>• Generally do not salvage following natural disturbances. Limited salvage and restoration actions may be done when necessary to significantly improve the visual quality of the area. Leave abundant coarse woody debris. Plant if natural regeneration to desired species would not occur or if the regeneration would be unusually slow.</li> <li>• Control invasive species as necessary to maintain aesthetic and ecological integrity; use appropriate methods that are consistent with the intent of this management area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Land Management Prescriptions Outside the 300 feet Passive Management Zone.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the growth and retention of large trees, favoring white pine, red pine, hemlock, and cedar for their high aesthetic value. Under-planting may be used to increase stocking levels of key species.</li> <li>• Minimize the visual impact of forest management using aesthetic management techniques such as: restricting the size of cuts, conducting partial harvests, conducting small regeneration cuts with irregular boundaries.</li> <li>• Salvage of trees damaged by wind, ice, fire, and insects may occur after consultation with managers from affected DNR programs and emphasize the improvement of the long-term visual quality of the area. Plant long-lived species following salvage if desired forest composition will not regenerate naturally.</li> <li>• Actively manage the existing pine plantation through thinning and appropriate regeneration techniques to create stands with a natural appearance and larger diameter trees.</li> <li>• Mechanical site preparation will be done as needed. Mowing, scarification, herbicide or other methods may be utilized to enhance regeneration.</li> <li>• Use standard single tree selection (and no gap management) when little northern hardwood regeneration is present and less desirable species can dominate.</li> <li>• Convert northern hardwoods to uneven-aged management where site and stand conditions allow.</li> <li>• Even-aged management may be considered on northern hardwood sites where crop trees are lacking to achieve long-term uneven aged stand management. Even-aged management methods include overstory removal and shelterwood cuts.</li> <li>• Use gap management techniques when abundant northern hardwood regeneration is present. Encourage natural regeneration through site preparation for mid-tolerant species such as basswood, ash, and birch.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retain Eagle and Osprey nesting trees.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recreation Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow the requirements for a Type 2 Setting per NR44.07(5) for facility management, redevelopment, or renovation.</li> <li>• Maintain Department managed water access landings in a wooded condition with healthy, vigorous trees. Plant native trees and shrubs as needed. Remove hazard trees as necessary.</li> <li>• Reclaim to a stable, natural appearing condition: old campsites, acquired developments, or other sites that have been highly disturbed by human use.</li> <li>• Future expansion of river recreational facilities (new access sites or adding primitive campsites) may be done through the master plan variance process. The recommendation shall be based upon two years of river use survey data and information collected from stakeholders and the public.</li> <li>• Work in cooperation with the Upper Flambeau River Advisory Council, local citizens and townships with annual meetings during the implementation of the master plan for this area</li> <li>• Future administrative oversight for the management of this area may be conducted by the Division of Forestry, Flambeau River State Forest or the Division of Lands, Turtle Flambeau Flowage administrative unit. Until, and if formal management responsibilities are transferred, the FRSF will manage the area. Independent of administrative responsibility the objectives and prescriptions as outlined in this master plan will guide the future use, development, and management of this area.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

## **Wild Resources Management**

### **Wild Resources Area 20 – Wild and Wilderness Lakes**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Short and Long Term Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve the remote and wild nature of Bass Lake while protecting the water quality, hydrology and aesthetic qualities of Bass Lake and its associated wetlands.</li> <li>• Allow the forest surrounding the lake to develop old-growth characteristics through natural processes. Maintain high-quality examples of native communities such as Northern Mesic Forest, Black Spruce Swamp, Muskeg, Open Bog and Poor Fen.</li> <li>• Maintain Bass Lake in a natural, undeveloped condition with minimal signs of human influence for fishing, nature study, and aesthetic appreciation.</li> <li>• Provide remote, non-motorized, low-impact recreation (on water and land) in a wilderness setting with walk-in only access.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions: All Wild Lake Areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largely passively manage these areas, allowing natural processes to predominate. Active management is limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maintaining designated access roads, trails, and campsites at the prescribed level of development for each lake.</li> <li>- Conducting forest and habitat restoration (i.e. thin pine plantations to restore them to a more natural appearing condition) when and as prescribed for the individual lakes in this plan (below).</li> <li>- Implementing limited shoreline tree-drops when needed to add coarse woody debris for restoration and enhancement of aquatic habitat. This shall be done in a manner that maintains a generally natural appearance along the shoreline, as required for a Wild Resources Management Area (NR 44.06 (10)) and Type 2 Recreational</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>Use Setting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Abandoning and restoring non-designated roads and trails to a natural condition.</li> <li>- Actively suppressing forest fires using the minimum actions required. Restore any soil disturbed to its original topography.</li> <li>- Monitoring for insect, disease, and invasive outbreaks and taking action only when there is a strong threat to forests outside of the management area.</li> <li>- Controlling invasive species as necessary; pesticide use is permitted.</li> <li>- Conducting timber salvage in limited circumstances. Due to the area's wild resources classification, timber will generally not be salvaged after a natural disturbance (i.e. catastrophic wind, fire, disease, or insect damage). However, salvage may occur after a major disturbance if an interdisciplinary team determines salvage is advisable, considering the area's management objectives and wild resources classification.</li> <li>- Public use of motor boats on wild lakes is not authorized. Public motor vehicle use on wild lake areas are authorized only on access roads designated in the master plan. Motorized vehicles and watercraft are not allowed for routine management activities except for responding to health and safety or other emergencies, or to conduct restoration and collection activities; such as fishery habitat restoration and monitoring.</li> </ul> <p><b>Additional Management Prescriptions for Individual Lakes</b></p> <p><u>Swamp Lake</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the existing parking area (located approximately 1/2 mile from Swamp Lake) at the gated end of Tower Hill Road, a moderately developed forest road that is open to the public.</li> <li>• Utilize the existing woods road and the trail that extends beyond the gated parking area as a lightly developed trail route to provide public walking access to Swamp Lake.</li> </ul> <p><u>Hanson Lake</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain Hanson Lake South Road, an existing road that parallels Hanson Lake and enters and traverses the wild lake zone for about 500 feet, as a moderately developed forest road open to the public.</li> <li>• Provide minimal roadside parking for up to two vehicles beyond the view of the lake.</li> <li>• Establish a lightly developed trail to provide public walking access to the lake from the vehicle parking area.</li> </ul> <p><u>Champagne Lake</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restrict all public motor vehicle use. No road, trail, or parking developments are planned.</li> </ul> <p><u>Little Pelican Lake</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retain the existing Pelican Road, a public town road that crosses the wild lake area.</li> <li>• Provide minimal roadside parking for up to two vehicles beyond the view of the lake.</li> <li>• Maintain the existing lightly developed walking trail to the lake from the vehicle parking area.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Addition of informational kiosks at Bass Lake and Pelican Lake.</li> <li>- Routine annual maintenance of roads and lots.</li> </ul>

## **Recreation Management**

### **Recreation Area 21 – Flambeau River Recreation Area and Forest Headquarters**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Long and Short Term Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide facilities for state forest administrative and operations; including but not limited to office and meeting space, storage, and maintenance facilities.</li> <li>• Serve as the central location for customer services; including general visitor information, education and interpretation. Additionally, provide centralized shower facilities that are accessible to river users and other forest visitors</li> </ul>
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	<p>alike.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a convenient river access for groups and individuals with canoes, kayaks and small boats while maintaining a rustic and lightly developed appearance of the river shoreline. The level development here may be at a higher level than at the other river access points.</li> <li>• Provide rustic, near-river vehicle accessible camping, and group camping opportunities.</li> <li>• Provide and maintain a largely natural appearing, aesthetic setting.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b></p>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions</b></p> <p><u><i>Vegetation Management</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the growth and retention of large white pine, yellow birch, cedar, and other northern hardwood species where appropriate. Remove diseased and defective trees that are hazardous to staff or the public. Provide maintained grass areas as appropriate.</li> <li>• Conduct additional management activities as needed to support the use and purpose of the area, such as mowing, brushing, cutting, and controlling invasives.</li> </ul> <p><u><i>Administration and Operations</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build a new forest headquarters building and visitor station with space administration functions as well the delivery of general visitor information services.</li> <li>• Maintain and adjust and necessary storage and maintenance facilities to support Department operations.</li> </ul> <p>Note: This master plan does not control the specific operations or development of facilities within this area. Administrative and operational facilities are managed under separate state administrative processes. Historic buildings are managed according to the requirements of DNR manual code 1810.1.</p> <p><u><i>HQ Visitor Services Area</i></u></p> <p>The new visitor services area adjacent to the HQ building will be a focal point offering expanded information/education facilities, picnicking, toilet/shower building, and will be fully accessible by river or vehicle.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On the west side of the river in the vicinity of the new Headquarters building, develop a small picnic area (up to five tables) and a restroom/shower building. The shower building will be available for all forest visitors.</li> <li>• Convert the existing forest headquarters building (cabin) to a visitor center providing self-guided exhibits and interactive learning experiences. Develop a moderately developed (barrier-free) nature trail on a suitable site in the area.</li> <li>• Provide parking for up to 40 vehicles (including ATVs and Snowmobiles) for day-use area and new headquarters building visitors.</li> <li>• Develop a barrier-free watercraft landing on the west bank of the river to provide access to the Headquarters Building and the public use facilities on the site.</li> </ul> <p><u><i>East-bank Hwy W Landing</i></u></p> <p>The existing Hwy W landing across the river from the forest headquarters will be redesigned and improved to provide more space for launching or landing canoes and kayaks and to make it barrier free.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Redevelop the landing to provide barrier-free watercraft access, restrooms and parking; a lightly developed ramp (improved approach and sloped) for launching small, trailered boats, additional landing space for multiple canoes or kayaks, drinking water (hand pump or pressurized), and an informational kiosk.</li> <li>• Provide parking for 10 vehicles plus 4 vehicles with trailers. A loading area may be provided near the river's edge but parking will be located so as to not be readily visible from the river.</li> </ul> <p><u><i>River's-edge Campground</i></u></p> <p>A new small, rustic family campground will be developed on the east side of the river across from the forest headquarters. This campground will accommodate river users arriving late in the day and provide a convenient day-trip opportunity and disperse river users.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct a minimally developed, 5-10 campsites rustic family campground for use by up to six persons per site. Some campsites may be walk-in only accessible. There will be 100 to 200 feet of separation distance between campsites. Connect the lightly developed campground access road to the east Highway W river landing.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If a need is determined, one to two vehicle accessible group campsites (maximum capacity 15 persons) may be developed in the campground or on another location within this management area on a site with sufficient separation distance to minimize conflicts between the group and other campers or visitors.</li> <li>• Provide a hand pump or pressurized water source, trash receptacles, vault type rest rooms.</li> <li>• If a need is determined, construct a small, minimally developed carry-in canoe/kayak landing for campground users.</li> <li>• Maintain RV dumping station within this management area (Area 21).</li> <li>• Add an overflow parking area as needed.</li> </ul> <p><u>Semi-primitive group Campsite</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide two semi-primitive, riverside group campsites for use by river travelers. Follow the design management criteria for the semi-primitive group campsites located in the Scenic River Management Area (Area 18).</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-New Forestry HQ completed in 2015 providing for enhanced office space, meeting space, and visitor service opportunities. New facility also includes public restrooms and showers for river, campground, and forest users.</li> <li>-Repaired ruptured water line on dump station.</li> <li>-Completed a new nature/interpretive trail at the HQ.</li> <li>-HQ landing constructed in 2016.</li> </ul>

## State Natural Areas

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>State Natural Area Program Objectives</b></p> <p>Locate, establish, and preserve a system of SNAs that as nearly as possible represents the wealth and variety of Wisconsin's native landscape for education, research, and long-term protection of Wisconsin's biological diversity for future generations.</p>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<p><b>The State Natural Area designation does not change the underlying management objectives, prescriptions, or authorized recreation and management activities outlined in this master plan for each land management area. There are no additional management prescriptions associated with these State Natural Areas. See the specific Management Areas for detailed maps showing the location of SNA overlay zones.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Fork Pines (87 acres)</li> <li>• Hanson Lake Wetlands (302 acres, includes a 47-acre lake and other aquatic features)</li> <li>• Swamp Lake (1,042 acres, includes a 250-acre lake)</li> <li>• Bass Lake Peatlands (742 acres, includes a 95-acre lake)</li> <li>• Skinner Creek Hardwoods (228 acres)</li> <li>• Lake of the Pines Conifer - Hardwoods (53 acres)</li> <li>• Flambeau River Hardwood Forest (266 acres)</li> </ul>

## Management Overlay Zones

### Scenic Lake Management Overlay

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Long and Short Term Objectives (100 and 50 years)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and enhance the natural appearing and generally undeveloped landscape of each lake.</li> <li>• Maintain the existing level and type of public access and use of the lake and adjacent shoreline.</li> </ul>
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<p><b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b></p>	<p><b>Resource Management Prescriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage the forest within the scenic management zone (that area within 400 feet of the lake shore) to favor a mixed composition of species with emphasis on larger, longer-lived trees. Maintain an abundant amount of snags and coarse woody debris. Under plant to speed the conversion to longer-lived species.</li> <li>• Locate and design development to be harmonious with the landscape.</li> <li>• The development of new primitive campsites is authorized.</li> <li>• Non-motorized trails are allowed within the Scenic Lake Management Zone.</li> <li>• Generally, leave natural disturbances to naturally regenerate. Consider salvage when the visual qualities along the lake shore can be enhanced and erosion potential can be mitigated. Plant following salvage if the desired natural regeneration would not occur.</li> <li>• When harvesting timber or performing other management activities within this zone, modify the standard prescriptions to minimize the visibility of management activities as viewed from the water and access roads using aesthetic management techniques such as: restricting the size of cuts, conducting partial harvests, conducting small re-generational cuts with irregular boundaries.</li> <li>• The use of motorized vehicles, watercraft, or other equipment for management activities is not limited. Other management activities that may be conducted include herbicide application, burning, installation of fish habitat improvement devices- including tree-drops along the shoreline, trail or road construction, erosion control, and removal of hazard trees in public use areas.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2017 Accomplishments</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

## **Management Overlay Zones**

### **Long Term Research Overlay – Managed Old-Growth Silvicultural Study (MOSS)**

<p><b><i>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</i></b></p>	<p><b>Long and Short Term Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance or accelerate the development of old-growth characteristics through active management except for control stands.</li> <li>• Establish canopy gaps in sizes deemed to meet research objectives</li> <li>• Maintain control stands as baseline comparison</li> <li>• Promote adaptive research and provide research opportunities for the biological sciences and natural resource management communities consistent with the underlying area land management objectives.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b></p>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using standard silvicultural methods such as shelterwood cuts, thinnings, or group selection and installation of canopy gaps to enhance or accelerate old-growth characteristics.</li> <li>• Favor hemlock, yellow birch, ash, basswood, red oak, black cherry, and other uncommon tree species when possible on appropriate sites for compositional diversity.</li> <li>• Reserve tree and snag retention for coarse woody debris.</li> <li>• Evaluate stands in (2018-2023) with the potential application of more gaps and stand-wide thinning.</li> <li>• Passively manage control stands</li> <li>• In the event of a windstorm or fire, salvage logging at this site requires written approval by the division administrator for the Division of Forestry and the Bureau of Enforcement and Science</li> <li>• New or additional research in these areas must be agreed upon by the Division of Forestry</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of BMPs for water quality to protect aquatic features.</li> <li>• Protection of ephemeral ponds.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>None</i></li> </ul>

## **Management Overlay Zones**

### **Long Term research Overlay - University of Wisconsin Old Growth Research Project**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Long and Short Term Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide research plots, control areas, and buffer areas for old-growth forest research.</li> <li>• Provide demonstration areas and educational opportunities.</li> <li>• Promote adaptive research and provide research opportunities for the biological sciences and natural resource management communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<b>Management Prescriptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply single tree selection in northern hardwood stands.</li> <li>• Use adaptive research techniques, such as creating canopy gaps and movement of coarse woody debris.</li> <li>• Use single tree selection and old forest-extended rotation harvesting in the 125 acre buffer zone.</li> <li>• Passively manage control stands.</li> <li>• All actions shall be consistent with the objectives identified in Area 14: Flambeau Forks Native Community Management Area.</li> <li>• New or additional research in these areas must be agreed upon by the division administrator for the Division of Forestry and the Bureau of Enforcement and Science</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Ongoing</i></li> </ul>

## **Wildlife Management**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p>The wildlife management program on the Flambeau River State Forest focuses on maintaining and enhancing habitat and assessing the population status of important game, non-game, and listed species. The abundant wildlife on the Flambeau River State Forest requires diverse forest habitats in all successional stages from young to old growth forests. Diverse and healthy wildlife populations will be maintained by managing the composition and structure of forest habitats integrated with the management objectives and activities outlined for each land management area in the Land Management Section of this plan. Wildlife habitat values are further assured by the wildlife biologists working with foresters on timber sales in order to maximize tree species diversity and improve vegetative structure consistent with the management objectives for the area.</p>
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<b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b>	This wildlife management plan has been integrated into the management prescriptions for the individual management areas.
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## **Fisheries Habitat Management**

<b><i>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</i></b>	<b>Management Objective</b> Restore or enhance shoreline fish habitat that could benefit the fishery without negatively impacting the natural scenic quality of the area.
<b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b>	<b>Management Prescriptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with fish management staff to identify suitable sites for habitat improvement and conduct the following management activities as appropriate for the site and in ways that are compatible with the land use classification of the management area.</li> <li>• Interpolating of desirable native tree and shrub species where these species are absent.</li> <li>• Leave downed and fallen trees in the river and lakes to provide important fish habitat where not deemed a significant safety hazards to navigation.</li> <li>• Conduct mechanical or chemical control of woody vegetation that impacts important fish habitat structures.</li> <li>• Stabilize stream banks in critical areas to minimize erosion or slumping banks and improve in-stream conditions.</li> <li>• Control beaver populations on the tributaries to protect fish habitat and movement.</li> </ul>
<b><i>2017 Accomplishments</i></b>	<i>-APHIS beaver control was contracted for problem locations within the forest.</i> <i>-Fall Walleye Recruitment Survey was conducted on Connor's Lake.</i>

## **Recreation Management**

### **Flambeau River Water Trail**

<b><i>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</i></b>	<b>Management Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and promote opportunities on the North and South Forks of the Flambeau River for extended nonmotorized river travel and recreation in a natural appearing, somewhat remote setting.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b>	<b>Management Prescriptions:</b> <u>Watercraft access</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain or redevelop as needed watercraft access sites as described on Table 2.34 of the master plan.</li> </ul> <u>River related day-use sites</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide day-use facilities appropriate to the site's recreational setting classification to support river recreation as described below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Provide barrier-free river accessible services at the new forest headquarters visitor services area (Hwy W). The site offers information/education, picnicking, water, restrooms and shower facilities for river and non-river users. See Management Area 21 for a detailed description of this area.</li> <li>– Redevelop the Hervas Landing campsite as a picnic area for use by paddlers and fishermen. Capacity</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>will be up to 15 people. Provide vault toilets, a canoe landing, and parking shared with the boat landing. This site is designated as a Type-3 Recreational Use Setting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Enhance year-round access and viewing opportunities at Slough Gundy, a scenic site on the South Fork Flambeau River. Improve vehicle access and parking site. Construct moderately developed trail to provide ADA accessibility to Little Falls and add an interpretive kiosk. Provide for winter use by establishing a snowshoe trail. This site is designated as a Type-3 Recreational Use Setting.</li> </ul> <p><u>Information services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install and maintain information facilities appropriate for the recreational use setting at river access parking lots and the Headquarters Day-use Area to provide pertinent river use information, such as maps, river use rules and recreational safety information, literature highlighting river history and resources and management to enhance the Flambeau River canoe trail experience.</li> <li>• Provide additional access to information about river recreation, maps, rules, and river conditions on the forest through maintaining cross links on the forest's web page to local chambers of commerce and the Department of Tourism to provide additional access to information about river recreation, maps, and rules.</li> <li>• Monitor river levels, weather and paddling conditions to respond to river users' phone and email inquiries about current conditions. Consider reporting updates on the forest's web page, and providing links and contacts to other river reporting sources.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<p><i>-Interpretive kiosks placed at Little Falls-Slough Gundy, as well as all river and lake landings. Provides information</i></p> <p><i>-Trail Improvements at Little Falls-Slough Gundy.</i></p>

## **Recreation Management**

### **River Camping**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Management Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide opportunities for small and larger groups of paddlers to camp on the river at minimally to lightly developed dispersed and water only accessible campsites where they may enjoy nature, a sense of solitude, and camaraderie with family and friends.</li> <li>• Provide river camping opportunities for persons with disabilities.</li> <li>• Provide and maintain campsites that are sustainable over the long-term and meet NR 44 campsite design standards.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions:</b></p> <p><u>Group Campsites</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On the North Fork of the Flambeau River, re-develop and convert 7 existing semi-primitive camp areas (currently each contains a cluster of 2 or 3 campsites) into 7 group campsites. Develop 3 additional new group campsites with the same capacity and design as the redeveloped sites. (Additionally, two existing semiprimitive camp areas located near the Headquarters in Area 21 will be re-developed and converted to two river accessible group campsites, making a total of 12 group campsites on the river.)</li> </ul> <p>Designated use: Water access only. Each group campsite will be limited to a maximum of 15 campers. Campsites are only for a one-night-stay. If determined to be desirable and feasible, some group campsites may become reservable.</p> <p>Design of camp area: Follow the standards in NR 44.07(6)(e)(2); locate campsites 150' or more from any road, and have 400 or more foot separation distance between group campsites and out of sight and sound of non-group campsites (well over 400 foot separation) to minimize conflicts with other campers.</p>

Amenities: three picnic tables and a fire ring for cooking, a 2nd fire ring with benches, vault toilet, and gated service road for management access.

Semi-primitive Campsites

- On the North Fork of the Flambeau River, re-develop 3 existing semi-primitive camp areas into 3 improved semi-primitive camp areas, each containing two campsites. Develop 2 new semi-primitive camp areas in new locations, each containing two campsites.

Designated use: Each campsite is for use by families or groups of six persons or less. Campsites are only for a one-night-stay by river travelers.

Design of camp area: Follow the standards of NR 44.07(6); 400' or more of separation between campsites, out of sight and sound of group sites, and at least 150' from roads and designated trails (except the management service road). Camper access is by watercraft only.

Amenities: leveled and firm tent pads, one picnic table and fire ring per campsite, vault toilet shared between the two campsites, and gated service road for management access.

Primitive Campsites

- On the North Fork of the Flambeau River, develop 15 new primitive, single unit campsites in new locations to diversify camping opportunities and river trip options. Campsites will be interspersed with others along the river.

- On the South Fork of the Flambeau River; develop 2 new primitive, single unit campsites on the South Fork east (upstream) of Highway M and 2 new primitive, single unit campsites on the South Fork west (downstream) of Highway M.

Designated use: Each campsite is for use by a family or group of six persons or less. Campsites are for a one-night-stay by river travelers.

Design of campsite: Follow the standards of NR 44.07(5); campsites are widely dispersed (cannot see or hear other campers), with water access only. Sites are minimally cleared, with primitive surface material, and with limited development. Primitive campsites are remote locations with a high expectation of privacy and solitude and a low expectation for services and trail access.

Amenities: Each campsite will have a fire ring, and a box latrine. It may or may not have a picnic table.

Headquarters River Campground

A new vehicle accessible, small, rustic campground will be developed near the river from the Forest Headquarters (Area 21). It will accommodate both river users and other campers. Its location will provide a convenient base for day-trips on the river. See Management Area 21 for development details.

ADA Accessible Camping

- Riverside cabin: Construct a fully accessible ADA cabin on the North Fork of the Flambeau River upstream from the forest headquarters between Highway 70 and the Highway W bridge. Locate the cabin on a site with road access and suitability for a barrier free watercraft landing. This reach of the river is served on both ends by barrier-free watercraft landings.

Designated use: The cabin will be reservable for limited multi-day use to accommodate campers with special needs and their family or group. Capacity will be six persons.

Design: The cabin will be fully developed with all utilities, accessible furnishings and appliances, and full wheel chair accessibility. Access will be available for overnight campers arriving by vehicle, or by water access to provide opportunity for overnight river trips.

Amenities: barrier-free river access, table, raised fire ring, accessible picnic table, vehicle access roadway and parking.

- Barrier-free campsites: Wherever practicable, design campsites, particularly the group and semi-primitive sites, to be barrier-free.

Actions to alleviate over-use problems and enable site restoration

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close the Cedar Rapids camp area and restore the site to a natural condition. Camping will be relocated to more sustainable locations upstream and downstream.</li> <li>• Where opportunity allows, based on patterns of use, topography and ecological conditions, develop alternate-use campsites to allow campsites to be rested and restored. Alternate-use sites would be developed only as needed, and as budget and staffing allows.</li> <li>• Stabilize eroded riverbanks at campsites and other sites degraded by human use using native, natural materials as prescribed by NR 44 for a Type-2 Recreational Use Setting.</li> </ul> <p><u>General River Camping Management Prescriptions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage staffing levels to accommodate new or expanded developments.</li> <li>• River camping will only be permitted at designated sites. Sites are designed for a one-night-only stay by persons traveling exclusively by watercraft. All people and supplies must be transported by watercraft to the campsite. Winter-only access will be allowed for backpack camping by special permit.</li> <li>• Restrict camping at group campsites to a maximum of 15 persons. Inform organizations and recreation providers that they be expected to limit the size of river groups, or to split large groups into smaller units to meet the group campsite capacity limit.</li> <li>• The forest maintains a strict "carry-in, carry-out" policy for all disposable items, refuse and recyclables. Future management may include expanding container regulations on the river, or establishing alcohol-free zones for some locations.</li> <li>• The forest superintendent has authority to temporarily close or relocate campsites.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments</b>	<p><i>-Cedar Rapids Campsite: Two new semi-primitive sites were developed and spaced 400' apart. Each site includes a picnic table and fire ring. 1 new group site was created for a capacity of 15 campers. Site includes 3 picnic tables, 3 fire rings and a canoe rack. The three original sites were converted into one group site with 3 picnic tables and one fire ring, as well as a canoe rack. The remainder of the old sites were restored and planted with grass and littered with rock. One primitive site was also created with a picnic table, fire ring, and open air privy. New signage visible from the river was installed.</i></p> <p><i>-HQ camp river access was renovated providing for easier access to site and to reduce erosion.</i></p>

## Recreation Management

### Off-River Recreation - Camping

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Management Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a range of high quality, barrier-free family camping opportunities in an attractive natural setting at small modern and rustic campgrounds.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for large group camping in a rustic outdoor setting.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for hike-in, remote, primitive backcountry camping at designated sites, and for hunting, fishing camps and other special purpose camping at undeveloped sites.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for disabled persons to enjoy the forest and Flambeau River at an ADA accessible cabin.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions:</b></p> <p><u>Connors Lake Campground</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add electric service to 50 % of campsites and provide accommodations for larger camper units.</li> <li>• Place 50 % of campsites on the statewide campsite reservation system.</li> <li>• Develop two or three new reservable, walk-in-only campsites with lake access as topography and features site features allow.</li> </ul>

- Bring campgrounds up to current NR 44 standards for site spacing, a minimum of 100 feet or as site space and topography allows. Attempt to maintain the existing number of campsites although some may be lost to limitations of space and topography.
- Develop a small, open “free-play” area as site features and topography allow.
- Develop overflow parking for up to ten vehicles, trailers, and boats.
- Evaluate opportunities for providing overnight boat mooring facilities and develop them if deemed appropriate.
- Provide electricity at the campground host campsite.
- Install or upgrade nature trails and information facilities (see Nature Trails and Education for more details). Develop and maintain the nature trails at the moderately developed trail standard.

Lake of the Pines Campground

- Adjust campsite spacing, as space and topography allow, to bring campgrounds into compliance with current NR 44 codes. Maintain the existing number of campsites as practicable, although some loss may occur as a result of limited site opportunity /or sustainability.
- Place half of all campsites on the statewide campsite reservation system.
- Replace restroom facilities.
- Construct and maintain a small, open “free-play” area near the campground.
- Install or upgrade nature trails and information facilities (see Nature Trails and Education for more information)

Develop and maintain the nature trail at the moderately developed trail standard.

- Develop overflow parking for up to ten vehicles, trailers, and boats.
- Provide electricity at the campground host campsite.
- Evaluate opportunities for providing overnight boat mooring facilities and develop them if deemed appropriate.
- Relocate and redevelop the boat landing outside of Lake of the Pines campground. Provide a barrier-free dock /ramp, parking and vault toilets

Headquarters River Campground

A new rustic campground with 5-10 campsites will be developed across the river from the Forest Headquarters. (See Area 21 for details).

Outdoor Group Campground

- Develop a rustic outdoor group campground to accommodate up to 50 campers, to be occupied for up to seven nights on a reservable, fee basis. The group campground should be located near a water resource in a semi-remote location of the forest. The site's amenities will include a picnic shelter, tables, group fire ring, drinking water, vault toilets, parking, and gated access. All facilities will be barrier-free. See design diagram Appendix E.
- Allow restricted vehicular access to the camp.

ADA Accessible Cabin

A vehicle-accessible ADA cabin will be constructed near the Flambeau River for use by disabled persons and their

Hike-in Backcountry Camping:

- Develop four reservable, primitive, hike-in campsites at remote locations on Hackett Creek, Butternut Creek, Mason Creek, and Bull Creek (Shown on Map 2.23, Current and Planned Recreation). These designated sites will be widely dispersed and offer the following amenities: a tent pad, fire ring, and box latrine at each campsite. As needed, develop and maintain a 1-3 mile, primitive hiking access trail to each site.
- Offer special permits for dispersed backpack camping along a new linear hiking trail, the Wild River Trail. No designated facilities or amenities will be provided and there is no camping fee.
- Offer special permits for winter camping at canoe campsites from December-March. Permits will be available on a no-fee basis.

General Permit Camping

- Maintain a permit system to administer camping opportunities for deer hunting,



<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Four sites electrified at Connor's Lake Campground.</li> <li>-Hazard Tree Removal at Connor's Lake Campground.</li> <li>-Camp Host site electrified at Connor's Lake Campground.</li> <li>-Connor's Lake Campground 100% Reservable.</li> <li>-Lake of the Pines Campground ~50% Reservable.</li> <li>-New Vault Toilet installed at lake of the Pines Campground.</li> <li>-New Dock placed at Lake of the Pines Boat Launch.</li> <li>-Improved 2 Hunting Camp locations.</li> <li>-Developed concepts for wild river trail and hike in camping.</li> </ul>
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## **Recreation Management**

### **Day Use Areas**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Management Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide areas for a variety of developed day-use activities on the FRSF; such as picnicking, boating, swimming, fishing, outdoor play, as well as more passive recreational activities, such as interpretation and education.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<b>Management Prescriptions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and improve the Connors Lake Day Use Area following the NR 44 standards for a modern day use area. Upgrade the existing picnic area with playground equipment and fishing piers. Provide informational facilities to interpret the site and to provide visitor education.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-New Sand added to Connor's picnic area beach.</li> <li>-Re-Painting of picnic tables and grills.</li> <li>-Addition of 2 large cooking grills.</li> <li>-Pavilion repair.</li> <li>-New nature/interpretive trail at the FRSF HQ.</li> <li>-New Dock at Lake of the Pines.</li> <li>-Tree management at Connor's Lake Picnic Area.</li> </ul>

## **Recreation Management**

### **Lake and Flowage Watercraft Access**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Management Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide waterbody-appropriate watercraft access to the FRSF lakes and flowages for fishing and boating.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<b>Management Prescriptions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and maintain barrier-free dock /ramp at Connors Lake.</li> <li>• Relocate and redevelop the landing at Lake of the Pines. Provide a barrier-free dock /ramp.</li> <li>• Install a boat /trailer washing and collection station for milfoil at Connors Lake (currently no milfoil on Lake of the Pines.)</li> <li>• Renovate landings and put-ins/take-outs as necessary to protect shoreline or to improve access.</li> <li>• Install and upgrade as needed information facilities at landings to provide maps and details to educate visitors about</li> </ul>

	water-related conservation issues, rules or recreational opportunities.
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<i>-New Dock at Lake of the Pines boat landing.</i> <i>-Improved water access at HQ camp.</i> <i>-Informational kiosks with rules and regs, maps and other information placed at landings, lakes, and day use areas.</i>

## **Recreation Management**

### **Education and Interpretation**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Management Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide coordinated and enhanced educational opportunities, facilities and services at appropriate sites throughout the forest following a variety of property-appropriate themes, such as natural resource management, environmental issues, nature interpretation, and outdoor recreation.</li> <li>• Utilize educational programs, exhibits and messages to enhance and protect forest resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<b>Management Prescriptions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a comprehensive forest-wide information/interpretation/education plan to design the content and coordinate the delivery of education and public communications services on the Forest. Integrate implementation of the plan with other aspects of this master plan. Revise the plan and the delivery of information services as needed to include new topics of public interest or to address emerging conservation issues, or to improve delivery of the program to the public. At a minimum, the plan should specifically address the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The design and content of self-guided interpretation exhibits and interactive learning experiences. Interpretive themes to consider for the exhibits include, but are not limited to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) the Flambeau “a historic river highway” - travels on the river</li> <li>2) Flambeau Forest’s rich historical roots – Native American history, logging camps and river drives, CCC camps, historic hunting camps and partnerships.</li> <li>3) people of the forest - from Native American, to loggers /settlers , historic figures (Leopold), and recreators</li> <li>4) the “living forest” – natural dynamics (including wind effects and historic wind events); unique natural communities and resources</li> <li>5) today’s working forest - sustainable forest management</li> </ol> </li> <li>– Promotion of the FRSF as a destination location for birding and wildlife viewing (the FRSF is stop #71 on the Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail, and is near stop #64, the Kimberly Clark Wildlife Area).</li> <li>– Layout and content of a self-guided auto tour route to interpret forest resources and management, and to educate visitors about public benefits and opportunities that the forest offers. (See "Motorized Recreation" for more information.)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• River Education – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) delivery of information on recreation rules and etiquette for camping and water recreation at landings, headquarters, campsites and campgrounds, and educational programs; and</li> <li>2) development of materials to promote canoe safety and skills, paddling and camp etiquette, and low-impact camping. Delivery might include such techniques as: safety, skills &amp; etiquette cards; brochures; web pages, educational presentations or video.</li> </ol> </li> <li>– Use of the forest’s DNR web site to provide material such as: current maps, forest attractions, camping opportunities, and other user information.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Identify opportunities for forest related educational outreach with area schools and communities.</li> <li>• Take the following actions to support the delivery of information/interpretation/education services. (These are in addition to other related actions contained in the master plan.)</li> <li>– Convert the former forest headquarters building for education and interpretative use. Remodel building interior to provide open space for exhibits. Provide interior /exterior interpretive exhibits as directed by the interpretive plan.</li> <li>– Develop the fire tower as a forest landmark /historical interpretive stop. Consider the location as a site for supervised interpretive programs. Research the potential of providing a viewing tower. Construct parking area for 3 cars and 1 car trailer stalls.</li> <li>– Maintain a system of self-guided nature trails at campgrounds and other key locations on the forest.</li> <li>– Install/upgrade information facilities at landings, trail heads, campgrounds, river campsites, and day-use areas as appropriate, e.g. educational kiosks, rules and policy signs, maps, designated use or capacity.</li> <li>– Consider staffing needs appropriate to development of educational facilities and services. Seek to provide professional staff, naturalist services and programming for forest visitors and recreation enthusiasts at boat landings, campgrounds, and headquarters.</li> <li>– Maintain a law enforcement presence in concert with educational efforts to promote safe and sustainable river recreation.</li> <li>– Seek opportunities to partner with other agencies on education projects and initiatives.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Informational kiosks with rules and regs, maps and other information placed at landings, lakes, and day use areas.</li> <li>-New Atv/snowmobile trailhead kiosk.</li> <li>-Updated FRSF website.</li> <li>-Multi-disciplinary field day with local schools.</li> <li>-New nature/interpretive trail at FRSF HQ.</li> </ul>

## **Recreation Management**

### **Trails – Non-motorized**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Management Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide opportunities for backcountry trail hiking and backpacking on primitive trails.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for casual hiking, mountain biking, skiing, snowshoeing, and ski-joring, and nature appreciation on improved trails.</li> <li>• Provide family biking and hiking opportunities, particularly on routes that provide access to many of the primary recreational facilities on the Forest.</li> <li>• Provide barrier-free trail opportunities.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<b>Management Prescriptions:</b> <u>Wild River Hiking Trail</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lay out and construct a minimally developed, primitive trail, approximately 35 miles in length that roughly parallels the Flambeau River.</li> <li>• Establish trail heads in conjunction with river landings or as needed to provide appropriate trail access points. Provide informational kiosk and trail maps. Trail markings should be appropriate to the recreational use classification of the area.</li> <li>• Allow dispersed trailside backpack camping by special permit. No designated facilities or amenities will be provided</li> </ul>

	<p>and there is no associated fee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop trail spurs or connectors to scenic locations, day-use areas, campgrounds, and primitive camping facilities as opportunity allows.</li> <li>• Seek opportunities to work with external partners to connect to trail systems on other public lands such as the North Country Trail, and trails extending northward to Lake Superior.</li> </ul> <p><u><i>Oxbo Trail System</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain an eight mile system of lightly to fully developed trails for year-round recreational activities. Manage to provide high quality trail experiences with a minimum of conflicts between different user groups. The trail will meet design standards for ski trails, unless another activity is designated as the primary use.</li> <li>• Install trail signage confidence markers and maps, and develop an accompanying map brochure for various trail uses.</li> <li>• Upgrade parking area to include a vault toilet and informational kiosk.</li> </ul> <p><u><i>Flambeau Hills Ski Trail System</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the 14 mile Flambeau Hills ski trail as a system of lightly to fully developed trails.</li> <li>• Construct a ski-trail warming house and equipment shelter at the trailhead.</li> </ul> <p><u><i>Nature Trails</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of the Forest's Education and Interpretation program, redevelop nature trails and interpretive signage at Lake of the Pines and Connors Lake campgrounds. Develop and maintain these as moderately developed trails.</li> </ul> <p><u><i>ADA Accessible – Barrier-free Trails</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install a moderately developed, barrier-free nature trail on the property in the new forest headquarters visitor services area. See Management Area 21.</li> <li>• Seek opportunities to make suitable trails or portions of trails barrier free.</li> </ul> <p><u><i>Backcountry Hiking Trails</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop primitive hiking trails to provide access to four new backcountry campsites (See Primitive Backcountry Camping).</li> </ul> <p><u><i>Family Bike/Hike Trail</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct a family bike and hike trail that connects the Connors Lake and Lake of the Pines campgrounds with the Connor's Lake Picnic Area and the FRSF Headquarters Area. Also, extend a link to the Flambeau Hills trail system. Total trail distance will be about 7 miles.</li> <li>• Construct the trail as a fully developed trail (with a crushed gravel surface) following existing trail corridors and road right-of-ways as much as possible. For safety, design the trail route to avoid conflict with highway and recreational vehicles by minimizing road crossings and travel along highway shoulders and motorized recreation trails.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<p>-New Nature/Interpretive trail at the FRSF HQ built.</p> <p>-Maintenance of the Flambeau Hills Ski Trail and Hiking trail, including grooming and annual mowings.</p> <p>-Laid out a conceptual plan of the Wild River trail and Hike in camping opportunities.</p>

## **Recreation Management**

### **Trails - Motorized**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Management Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide sustainable, designated snowmobile and ATV trail riding opportunities as part of regional trail networks; and, as is feasible and compatible with other Forest objectives, support the expansion of the regional trail networks.</li> </ul>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b></p>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions:</b>  <u>All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop or maintain sustainable ATV trails on the Forest. Follow the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources <i>Guidance for All-Terrain Vehicle Use on Department Lands</i> (WDNR 2005)</li> <li>• Using existing snowmobile routes, construct about three miles of new ATV trail to connect the existing Flambeau River State Forest ATV trail to the Price County Trail system to the southeast. Trail designation and implementation is dependent on establishing a suitable trail corridor, and on the future extension of Price County trail systems.</li> <li>• Using existing snowmobile routes, construct about three miles of new ATV trail to connect the existing Flambeau River State Forest ATV trail to the Rusk County Trail system to the south. Trail designation and implementation is dependent on establishing a suitable trail corridor, and on the future extension of Price County trail systems.</li> <li>• Over time, allow partial canopy closure of ATV trails after initial construction to provide a more intimate riding experience.</li> <li>• Do not allow too much closure as the vegetation prevents the trail from drying out, increasing impacts and maintenance.</li> <li>• Construct a ramp at trail head(s) for loading/unloading ATVs.</li> <li>• Establish interpretive stops at appropriate locations along trails as provided for in the Forest interpretive plan.</li> <li>• Adjust timing of trail use (open/closed dates) for seasonal trail conditions.</li> <li>• Consider law enforcement needs appropriate to increased trail mileage.</li> </ul> <p><u>Snowmobiles</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and work in cooperation with partners to maintain a safe system of snowmobile trails throughout the forest.</li> <li>• Develop a trail reroute from Price Lakes Road to trail #36 (approx. 2 miles). This will increase safety by removing travel from the town road. Snowmobile/ATV trail facilities will be upgraded to accommodate users' needs and enhance sustainability.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2017 Accomplishments</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-New snowmobile connector from Price Lakes Road to trail #36 built.</li> <li>-ATV and Snowmobile Trail network re-signed.</li> <li>-Loading Ramp at Flambeau Hills Trail Head Built.</li> <li>-New informational Kiosk built at Flambeau Hills Trail head.</li> <li>-Renovated northern section of trail 36.</li> <li>-Started Construction of a new ATV trail segment from Fisherman's LDG to Rusk County.</li> </ul>

## Recreation Management

### Hunting

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<p><b>Management Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and support traditional outdoor sporting activities such as hunting and trapping and fishing by maintaining trails and enhancing or upgrading existing boat landings, access points, and other facilities.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b></p>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the current level of hunter-walking access routes consistent with the Forest's road access plan (See Road Management section of this plan, and Map 2.25 in appendix).</li> <li>• Provide maps of hunter- walking access routes, brochures and information on the FRSF web site.</li> <li>• Consider the "adopt-a-hunting trail" concept. Explore additional funding sources and opportunities to work with private groups for partner projects.</li> </ul>

<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Created new forest property map.</li> <li>-Created new Unit maps depicting trails and Hunter-Walker trails. Available on the website as well.</li> </ul>
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## Recreation Management

### Fishing

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Management Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and provide opportunities for fishing.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<b>Management Prescriptions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain reasonable access to traditional fishing areas on the north and south forks of the Flambeau River and forest lakes.</li> <li>• Develop fishing piers at Connor's Lake Campground, Connors Lake Day-use Area, and at Lake of the Pines Campground.</li> <li>• Maintain primitive walking access trails to Hackett and Price Creeks.</li> <li>• Provide information about fishing rules and opportunities at information facilities, in publications or online, taking care not to over-promote specific locations.</li> <li>• Continue to work in cooperation with the fisheries division on trout stream improvement.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-New Dock at Lake of the Pines.</li> <li>-New informational kiosks at landings with regs and information.</li> </ul>

## Recreation Management

### Public Motor Vehicle Access

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Management Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide public access opportunities according to the forest's road access plan.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<b>Management Prescriptions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the level of forest roads and trails accessible to the public according to the current access plan.</li> <li>• Maintain roads and trails according to prescribed road or trail classifications.</li> <li>• Maintain a current map of roads and trails as part of the road management plan.</li> <li>• Cooperate with county forests in providing future road access to county forest lands through state property if needed for management purposes or public licensed vehicle access.</li> </ul>
<b>2017 Accomplishments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Road Cleanup.</li> <li>-General Road Maintenance and culvert replacements.</li> <li>-Grading of roads.</li> <li>-Variance on Hervas Road for operation of ATVs and a variance for the allowance of atv operation at Connor's lake boat launch during winter months.</li> </ul>

	<p>-Northern ATV trail improvements on Trail 36.</p> <p>-Started work on a new ATV trail segment from Fisherman's LDG to Rusk County.</p>
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## **Real Estate Management**

### **Forest Boundary Expansion**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Management Objectives:</b></p> <p>Six boundary expansion areas are planned for the Flambeau River State Forest as part of the master, totaling approximately 49,000-acres adjacent to the existing property boundary plan (See Appendix Map 2.24: Planned Boundary Expansion). These areas were selected for their ability to provide important additional ecological, economic, and social values to the property and region (Table 2.37: Boundary Expansion Acres). The boundary expansion aims to protect additional undeveloped shoreline along the Flambeau River and its flowages, wilderness lakes, high conservation value forests and unique wildlife habitats. Large tracts of undeveloped industrial forestland adjacent to the property provide opportunities to connect public lands, expand recreation opportunities, and create large blocks of high quality forest resources, while also contributing to the local economies of Price, Sawyer and Rusk Counties through forest production and increased tourism. These opportunities are discussed in greater detail in the area descriptions below.</p>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<p><b>EXPANSION AREAS</b></p> <p><b>Price Lakes Complex</b> Acres: 18,539 Expansion Area Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect an important complex of undeveloped lakes, wetlands, and natural communities</li> <li>• Create a large block of continuous forest land to maintain and enhance existing public uses</li> <li>• Provide important habitat connectivity with Kimberly Clark State Wildlife Area to the east and Price County Forest to the south.</li> <li>• Identified as a Conservation Area Opportunity for Species of Greatest Conservation Needs</li> </ul> <p><b>North Fork Watershed</b> Acres: 10,512 Expansion Area Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect an important portion of the North Fork of the Flambeau River corridor</li> <li>• Create a large block of continuous forest land to maintain and enhance existing public uses</li> <li>• Provide linkages between blocks of existing public lands to provide important habitat connectivity, connect regional recreation trails and protect tributaries</li> <li>• Protect important habitat areas for unique species (this area is adjacent to a native community management area)</li> <li>• Opportunity for elk and marten introduction due to the remoteness and undeveloped landscape</li> <li>• High conservation value forests have been identified in this area, with scattered pockets of old-growth hemlocks</li> </ul> <p><b>Western Boundary</b> Acres: 8,265 Expansion Area Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a large block of continuous forest land, most of which is presently under a single ownership</li> <li>• Connect state and Sawyer County forest land to create a large, continuous block of public ownership and connect important regional recreation trails</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue sustainable forestry practices on forested lands</li> <li>• Existing County Highways (M and W) provide access to the area for management and recreation</li> </ul> <p><b>Big Falls Flowage</b>  Acres: 9,954  <i>Expansion Area Opportunities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect an important portion of the Flambeau River corridor and Big Falls Flowage</li> <li>• Connect state and county owned forest land to create a large, continuous block of public ownership and connect important regional recreation trails</li> <li>• Create a large block of continuous forest land, most of which is presently under a single ownership and could be secured to maintain and enhance existing public uses</li> <li>• This area includes a portion of the Thornapple River, which has been identified as a state Conservation Opportunity Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>South Fork Buffer</b>  Acres: 990  <i>Expansion Area Opportunities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buffer and protect river corridor to preserve the scenic qualities of the undeveloped river way</li> <li>• Provide a buffer against incompatible land uses that would diminish visitor experience in the river corridor</li> <li>• Protect critical portions of rivers or streams and ensuring the quality of the larger watershed</li> </ul> <p><b>Upper North Fork River Buffer</b>  Acres: 924  <i>Expansion Area Opportunities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buffer and protect the river corridor to preserve the scenic qualities of the undeveloped river- way</li> <li>• Provide a buffer against incompatible land uses that would diminish visitor experience along the river corridor</li> <li>• Protect critical portions of rivers or streams and ensure the quality of the larger watershed</li> <li>• Establish new and/or enhance existing accesses to the river and adjacent lands to promote public access and establish a "river trail"</li> </ul> <p><b>Other Conservation Opportunities</b>  Just west of the Western Boundary, is a large block of privately-owned industrial forestland that has been recognized as an important area for resource protection and recreational opportunities. While the area is not included in the property boundary because of its large size, it has been identified as having considerable ecological, economic and social attributes under its current ownership, including sustainably managed forests, recreation trails and available public access. The land is located west of CTY Hwy M to the Thornapple River and south of CTY Hwy W to the Sawyer County Forest and is approximately 28,000-acres in size. The area provides key amenities including terrestrial and aquatic system Conservation Opportunity Areas (COAs) for species of greatest conservation need, including the Thornapple River, and recreational access points, including regional motorized trail opportunities. The Department would work with local governments to evaluate options for preserving this land, including conservation easements.</p>
<b>2017Accomplishments</b>	<p>-Demolition of cabin on land acquired by state several years ago.</p> <p>-Acquisition of 80 acres off of Ruby Road.</p>

## Road Management

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<p><b>Management Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a network of roads on the FRSF that meet land management and recreation objectives, while minimizing environmental impacts.</li> <li>• Maintain state forest roads to the designated road standards and in a sustainable condition.</li> <li>• Protect scenic values along road corridors in balance with management area objectives.</li> <li>• Manage the spread of invasive plant species along road corridors.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b></p>	<p><b>Management Prescriptions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Department managed roadways within the Flambeau River State Forest will be maintained in part according to the following requirements from the Best Management Practices for water quality: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Clear debris from culverts, ditches, dips and other drainage structures to decrease clogging that can lead to washouts.</li> <li>– Keep traffic to a minimum during wet periods and spring breakup to reduce maintenance needs.</li> <li>– Shape road surfaces periodically to maintain proper surface drainage.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Monitor and manage the spread of invasive plant species along roads using Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices for Invasive Species. Control invasive species uses appropriate management techniques including but not limited to, herbicides, burning, cutting and mowing.</li> <li>• Maintain visibility and clearance along roads that is adequate for the road classification and use.</li> <li>• Restore roads used in timber harvest operations to non-erosive conditions after harvesting is completed</li> <li>• Inspect permanent roads throughout the year and develop a maintenance schedule</li> <li>• Annually review the roads open for public use and make adjustments as needed to enhance access for recreational users as allowed by the management area's land use classification.</li> <li>• Inspect and maintain designated lightly developed roads every three years to provide a system of roads for hunter walkers. Review, on an annual basis, the roads designated in this classification and make changes based on opportunities to expand or enhance the road network for recreational access as allowed by the area's land management classification.</li> <li>• All non-state forest road right-of-ways (66 feet) will continue to be controlled and maintained by their current operator (state, county, or town).</li> </ul>
<p><b>2017 Accomplishments</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Road Cleanup.</li> <li>-General Road Maintenance and culvert replacements.</li> <li>-Grading of roads.</li> </ul>

## Cultural Resources Management

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<p><b>Management Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The protection and preservation of areas, objects, and records of cultural importance will be coordinated with the Department Archaeologist in consultation with interested tribal communities, institutions, and/or other interested parties. This consultation will include (but is not necessarily limited to) notification to interested parties of activities and potential impacts in areas of known concerns. Opportunities for involvement in research of sites of known cultural importance will be made.</li> <li>• Protection of cultural resources will be coordinated with the Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) as required by</li> </ul>
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applicable state and federal historic preservation laws and regulations.

- Protection of burial sites will follow Section 157.70 of Wisconsin Statutes, and the Department's "*Burials, Earthworks, and Mounds Preservation Policy & Plan*" (WDNR 2008).
- The Flambeau River State Forest Superintendent will consult with Tribal and GLIFWC (Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission) representatives regarding state forest management issues on a government-to-government basis as required under Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 44.04 (7)(c).
- As needed, approved future facility development sites (parking lots, buildings, etc.) will be inspected prior to construction to locate and evaluate any evidence of significant archaeological or historic material in compliance with Section 44.40 of the Wisconsin State Statutes, and Manual Code 1810.1.
- All accommodations necessary will be made to avoid adverse impacts on cultural sites that maybe affected by management activities.
- Cultural resources may be developed for scientific and educational purposes to the extent that the integrity of the resource is maintained.

**Questions, Comments, Concerns can be directed to:**

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